

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The claims are 2-4, 9-16, 18, 20 and 23-25. Independent claims 23, 24 and 25 have been amended to more clearly define the invention. Reconsideration is expressly requested.

In particular, claims 23, 24 and 25 have been amended to delete the term "*continuous*" with respect to the regulation of flow resistance and to recite the feature of "*a spring connected to said slide valve, said spring biasing said slide valve to a rest condition wherein the opening of the control hole between said first hydraulic chamber and said second hydraulic chamber is closed*". Support for the amendments to claims 23, 24 and 25 may be found, *inter alia*, in the specification as filed at page 9, second paragraph (paragraph 0027 of the corresponding published application US 2006/0052753), page 14, second paragraph (paragraph 0043 of the published application) and in the drawing figure as filed. No new matter has been introduced.

The Examiner objected to the disclosure for an informality at page 5, line 19 and has suggested that the phrase "*sad separator piston*" be replaced with "*said separator piston*". Applicant has amended the specification to incorporate the correction suggested by the Examiner, which it is respectfully

submitted overcomes the Examiner's objection to the disclosure.

Claims 2-4, 9-16, 18, 20 and 23-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. In particular, it was the Examiner's position that even though the specification discloses the second hydraulic chamber being connected to the first hydraulic chamber so as to allow for regulation of flow resistance, there is no disclosure of the continuous regulation of the flow resistance.

In response, Applicant has amended independent claims 23, 24 and 25 to delete the term "continuous" with respect to the regulation of flow resistance. Accordingly, each of claims 23-25 now recite, in pertinent part as follows:

a second hydraulic chamber behind said first hydraulic chamber and connected to said first hydraulic chamber so as to allow for ~~continuous~~ regulation of flow resistance

In view of the foregoing amendments to claims 23, 24 and 25, it is believed that the rejections of claims 2-4, 9-16, 18, 20 and 23-25 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph are overcome, and Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections on this basis.

Claims 9-16, 18, and 23-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,440,099 to Haar et al. Claims 2-4, 9-12, 18, 20 and 23-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 2,650,591 to Love.

The rejections are respectfully traversed.

It is respectfully submitted that the cited references fail to teach an anesthetic syringe as recited in independent claims 23, 24 or 25 as amended, or to achieve the substantial advantages associated with the invention recited in those claims.

In particular, as recited in each of independent claims 23, 24 and 25 as amended, Applicant's anesthetic syringe includes:

a spring connected to said slide valve, said spring biasing said slide valve to a rest condition wherein the opening of the control hole between said first hydraulic chamber and said second hydraulic chamber is closed

In the anesthetic syringe as recited in amended claims 23-25, the practitioner moves the slide valve against a biasing force provided by a spring. Therefore, there is always a

reliable returning force for the slide valve. This feature allows the practitioner to reduce the pressure. Moreover, the practitioner simply has to take his finger away from the lever and the injection stops instantly.

In contrast to Applicant's claimed arrangement, in the device according to *Haar et al.*, the user button 32 is designed to wedge under the housing. This wedging force is provided by the spring 47 which exerts a longitudinal force on the user button 32 and therefore holds the user button 32 in the position as shown in FIG. 3 of *Haar et al.*

This characteristic of the *Haar et al.* device can be dangerous for the patient because the practitioner cannot rely on the safe return of the user button to the rest condition. This can even lead to a tooth of the patient being pressed out of the gums by the continuous pressure applied.

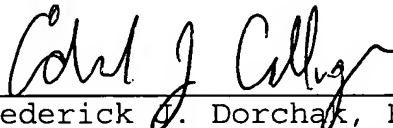
Love also fails to anticipate Applicant's invention as recited in amended claims 23-25. The syringe shown in *Love* does not include a returning mode; the pressure would not be able to push the valve rod 37 into a closed position. Moreover, even if the fluid in the device according to *Love* were able to move the valve rod 37, the only way the fluid could move the valve rod 37

would be out of the syringe, which would continue to open the valve.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that neither *Haar et al.* nor *Love* discloses or suggests Applicant's invention as recited in the claims.

In summary, the specification and independent claims 23, 24 and 25 have been amended. No new matter has been added. In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that remaining claims, which are claims 2-4, 9-16, 18, 20 and 23-25, be allowed and that this application be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,
Said MANSOURI

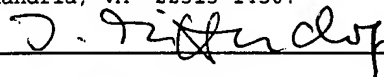


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